

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (new): An RF amplifier apparatus, comprising:
a plurality of amplifiers, each amplifier having an RF input configured to receive an RF input signal;
a magnitude driver, responsive to a magnitude input signal, operable to provide power level control signals to said plurality of amplifiers; and
a summer configured to receive RF output signals from said plurality of amplifiers and provide a resultant RF output signal.

Claim 23 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 22 wherein the RF input signal is a phase modulated RF input signal.

Claim 24 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 22 wherein each amplifier is coupled to an associated power controller having a power input port configured to receive a DC supply voltage, a control input configured to receive an associated power

level control signal from said magnitude driver, and a power control output configured to provide a power control output signal.

Claim 25 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 24 wherein each amplifier comprises a nonlinear switch mode power amplifier having a power control input configured to receive an associated power control output signal.

Claim 26 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 25 wherein each power controller comprises a switch mode converter configured to receive the DC supply voltage and provide an output voltage that approximates a desired operating voltage level of an associated nonlinear switch mode power amplifier.

Claim 27 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 26 wherein each power controller further comprises a regulator having an input coupled to an output of an associated switch mode converter, and an output configured to provide the power control output signal to an associated nonlinear switch mode power amplifier.

Claim 28 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 26 wherein each switch mode converter comprises a switch mode power supply.

Claim 29 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 22 wherein said power level control signals derive from a common power level control signal generated by said magnitude driver.

Claim 30 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 22 wherein said power level control signals are individual and separate power level control signals generated for each associated amplifier.

Claim 31 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 25 wherein each nonlinear switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class D amplifier.

Claim 32 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 25 wherein each nonlinear switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class E amplifier.

Claim 33 (new): The RF amplifier apparatus of Claim 25 wherein each nonlinear switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class F amplifier.

Claim 34 (new): A method of amplifying an RF signal, comprising:
applying an RF input signal to RF inputs of a plurality of amplifiers;
applying power drive signals to power control inputs of said plurality of amplifiers;

amplifying said RF input by said plurality of amplifiers, in accordance with associated power drive signals; and summing output signals from the plurality of amplifiers to form a resultant RF output signal.

Claim 35 (new): The method of Claim 34 wherein the RF input signal is a phase modulated signal.

Claim 36 (new): The method of Claim 34, further comprising:
applying a DC supply voltage to power input ports of each of said plurality of amplifiers; and generating power control signals for controlling each of said plurality of amplifiers.

Claim 37 (new): The method of Claim 36 wherein generating power control signals comprises converting said DC supply voltage to a plurality of DC voltages approximating desired operating voltage levels of said plurality of amplifiers.

Claim 38 (new): The method of Claim 37 wherein generating power control signals further comprises regulating said DC voltages approximating desired operating voltage levels of said plurality of amplifiers to provide said power control signals.

Claim 39 (new): The method of Claim 37 wherein converting said DC supply voltage to a plurality of DC voltages approximating desired operating voltage levels of said plurality of amplifiers is performed by an associated plurality of switch mode power converters.

Claim 40 (new): The method of Claim 39 wherein said plurality of amplifiers comprises a plurality of switch mode power amplifiers.

Claim 41 (new): The method of Claim 40 wherein each switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class D amplifier.

Claim 42 (new): The method of Claim 40 wherein each switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class E amplifier.

Claim 43 (new): The method of Claim 34 wherein said plurality of amplifiers comprises a plurality of switch mode power amplifiers.

Claim 44 (new): The method of Claim 43 wherein each switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class D amplifier.

Claim 45 (new): The method of Claim 43 wherein each switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class E amplifier.

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Claim 46 (new): The method of Claim 43 wherein each switch mode power amplifier comprises a Class F amplifier.